

HOUSE RESOLUTION 68  
By Pruitt

A RESOLUTION To congratulate Maria Gomez upon her receipt of the Third Place Award in the Humanities Tennessee Letters About Literature Contest.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should commend those outstanding students who, through their dedication and devotion, warrant recognition for their accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Maria Gomez is one such student deserving of acknowledgment for her recent success in the Humanities Tennessee Letters About Literature Contest; and

WHEREAS, A ninth grader at Pearl-Cohn High School in Nashville, Maria Gomez received the Third Place Award for her letter to author Martha Southgate; and

WHEREAS, The Letters About Literature Contest, co-sponsored by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, invited students to read a book and write a letter to the author discussing how the book impacted their lives; and

WHEREAS, Maria Gomez discussed the importance of the novel *Another Way to Dance* in her letter to the book's author, describing the many ways she identified with the novel through

its protagonist; in her closing, Maria thanked Ms. Southgate for "teaching me in your book that even though you may not get what you always want, you'll always have people giving you a hand to do your best"; and

WHEREAS, As Serenity Gerbman, Director of the Literature, Language and Literacy Program at Humanities Tennessee, said, "Letters About Literature is a wonderful contest for students. It encourages young readers to find books that are meaningful to them and to explore how those books affect their lives"; and

WHEREAS, More than 20,000 students from across the United States entered the competition this year; the first-place winners from each state will advance to a national competition; and

WHEREAS, Maria's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Miss Gomez's meritorious accomplishment is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby commend and honor Maria Gomez on her significant achievement and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.